

Save Your Watch
BY WEARING A
CHAIN

It need not be an expensive one. We have cheap ones.
Gents' Gold Filled Chains as low as \$1.00
Gents' Gunmetal and Silver Chains as low as \$1.50
Ladies' Long Gold Filled Chains as low as \$2.00
Ladies' Long Chains, Gunmetal and Silver, as low as \$2.00
Prices you seldom see equalled.
By buying your watch chains here you not only save your watch, you also save your money.

Galloner & Mitchell

Saturday's Bargain

Strictly Fresh Eggs 20c dozen
Canadian Hams = = 15c lb

Dixi H. Ross & Co.

The Independent Cash Grocers.

TRY ATKINS SAWS

NEVER HAVE BEEN BEATEN IN OFFICIAL CONTESTS.

FAST CUTTING!

EASY RUNNING!

GUARANTEED!

Agents: The Hickman-Tye Hardware Co., Ltd.

32 and 34 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C.

Broken Windows Repaired

J. W. MELLOR & CO., LTD.

GLASS DEALERS, 18 FORT STREET.

"CHRYSTOLINA"

THE GREAT GERM KILLER.

Used on Cattle, Horses, Dogs, Poultry, &c., &c.

Sold by all Druggists and Grocers.

R. P. RITHET CO., LTD.

Wholesale Agents.

GUINNESS'S EXTRA STOUT

M. B. FOSTER & SONS



BUGLE BRAND.

HUDSON'S BAY CO. AGENTS FOR B.C.

London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co.
of Liverpool, England.

Robert Ward & Co., Ltd.

General Agents for British Columbia.

Go to Hastie's Fair for Your Household Wares

"Tis the most economical place to buy. We mark all our goods in figures plain. The reason 'tis not hard to explain. 'Tis because our price is at the bottom.

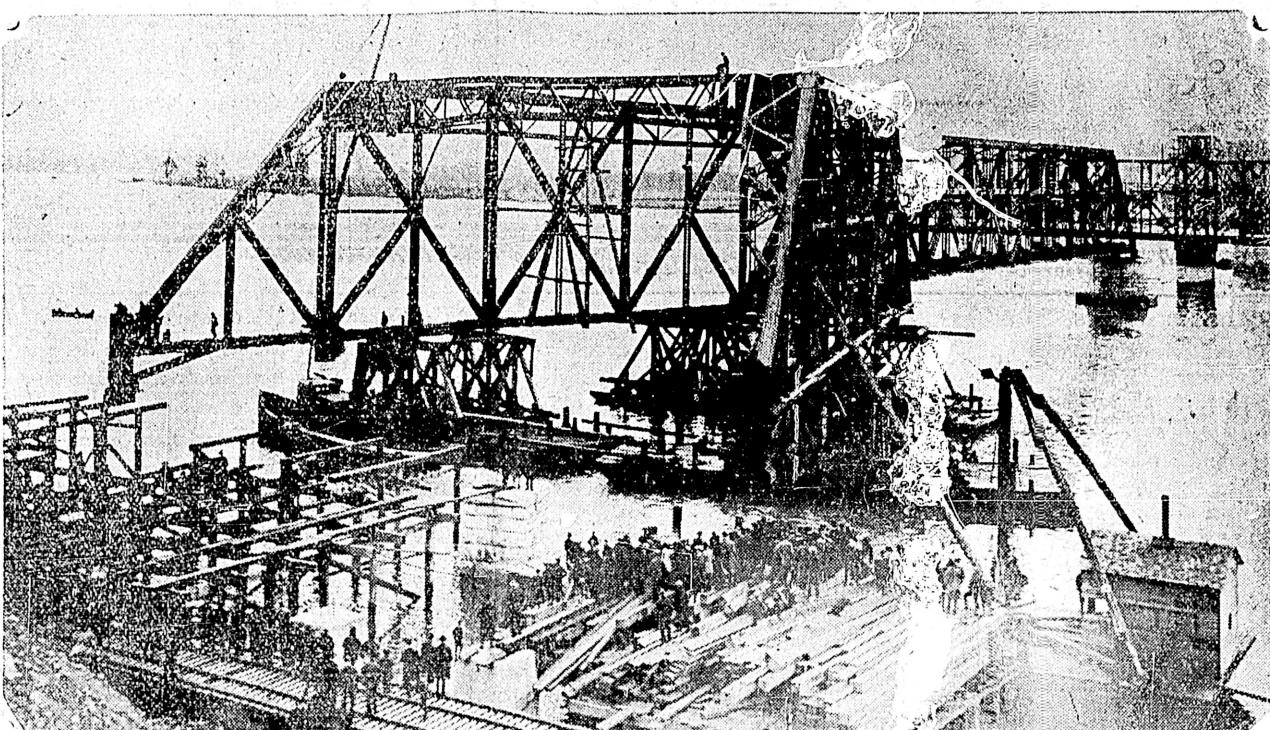
Hastie's Fair, 77 Government Street

"LEGOA" SEED OATS!

Perfectly graded and thoroughly cleaned. For sale by

The Brackman-Ker Milling Co., Ltd.

THE LAST SPAN IN THE FRASER RIVER BRIDGE,



Over 1,200 gathered on the north shore of the Fraser to watch the operation of moving into position on the new bridge of the big 220-foot span, which weighs 800 tons. It was moved half a mile in a circle and was successfully placed in position at 6 a.m. on March 19, and settled into place by falling of the tide. This work was done under the direction of M. Julian, Dominion engineer.

**American Speeches
Cause Comment**

**Russians View Askance Yankee
Enthusiasm at the Tokio
Banquet.**

**Viceroy Curzon's Address Re-
ceives More Attention Than
Tibetan Battle.**

St. Petersburg, April 2.—A Tokio despatch reporting that members of the United States legation there are making enthusiastic speeches on the occasion of the Perry banquet given at Tokio, March 31, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Perry treaty between Japan and the United States, arouses much comment here in view of President Roosevelt's proclamation enjoining strictest neutrality of word and speech on the part of all government officials.

The speech of the viceroy of India, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, March 30th, at Calcutta, when he reviewed the last five years of Indian administration and referred to the government's watchful policy, attracts more attention than Colonel MacDonald's victory in Thibet. It is considered to have been especially inopportune just at a time when English-baiting in Russia is decreasing, as it tends to revive animosities. But, coming from Lord Curzon, the words carry less weight, perhaps, than they would from other quarters. His lordship is looked upon as having his own special policy for India, as Cecil Rhodes had for South Africa. The *Boer Gazette* in its editorial entitled "A Voice on the Day" says of Lord Curzon's speech: "The fundamental idea of the shadow of Russia on the British frontier, Lord Curzon says: 'We do not want Thibet, but no other country shall have it.' Lord Duffin said the same thing about Nepal, Burmah and Kashmire. British arms have already carried death into Thibet, which is part of the Chinese Empire. The purpose is to take Thibet and run a railroad through China in order to be able to place troops there quickly. We wonder France, in view of the projected Anglo-French entente, will regard Lord Curzon's avowal of the designs cherished on southern Persia and Siam." The editorial concludes: "The powers having interests in China will do well to meditate upon these things."

The Svet, while acquitting Great Britain of responsibility and declaring that the British government is correctly observing neutrality, expresses astonishment at the speech of Lord Curzon, "whose words ring like a challenge." The army's correspondent on his way to the front, dwells on the great advantage to Russia of Cossack cavalry having their horses on the spot, thereby not necessitating transporting them from European Russia. The East Siberian Cossacks procured all the mounts desired for \$35 to \$50 a head.

Prince Julian de Bourbon, son of Don Carlos, the pretender to the throne of Spain, has gone to the Far East.

Official circles view Lord Curzon's speech with equanimity, where it is said, that the world's most important nations by Russia. So far as the Thibet expedition is concerned, Russia's attitude is one of waiting. For the present no action is even contemplated, and if any protests are made now they will come from China, not from Russia.

Baron de Rosen, the former Russian minister to Japan, had a long interview with Foreign Minister Lansdowne this afternoon. The reports that the authorities are dissatisfied with the Baron's course at Tokio on the ground that he

was not fully alive to the state of the Japanese war preparations, are declared to be unfounded. He will not be assigned to a new post at present.

The Emperor and all the members of the imperial family last night attended a concert given by the masked bands of St. Petersburg. This was the first time the Emperor had been inside a theatre since the declaration of war. His entry created immense enthusiasm. Three times the National Anthem was sung by the audience, standing, and it was repeated nine times during the evening.

Gilchrist, the Scotch engineer who repaired the Russian warships at Port Arthur, has arrived here. He left Port Arthur under a solemn pledge not to reveal anything about his experiences there, and, therefore, declines to talk. A letter received here from Vladivostok contains some harrowing details of the bombardment. A shell entered a laboree's house and literally tore a woman in half.

General Levashoff, director of military communication for the general staff, says: "The transport of troops over the Siberian frontier. Moscow, which had been without a hitch except for a six-hour stoppage caused by a collision. Men, guns, ammunition, equipment and provisions have gone forward with clock-work regularity. The sketching of scenes along the route appearing in English newspapers are ludicrous."

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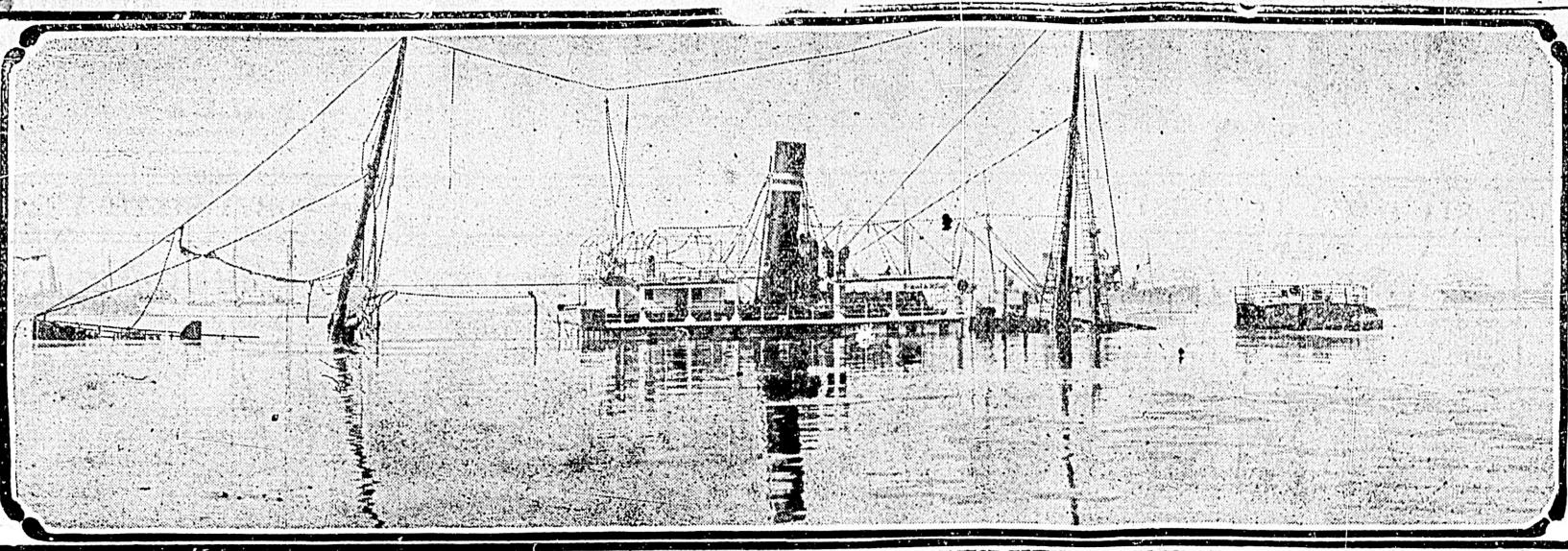
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RUSSIAN MERCHANT STEAMER SUNGARI - U.S.S. VICKSBURG AND JAPANESE TRANSPORTS IN THE DISTANCE

Copyrighted 1904 by THE NEW YORK HERALD COMPANY.

"Young Corbett" Gets the Decision

Result of a Six Round Match Awarded to Britt's Rival.

Large Audience Witnessed Contest in Chicago Last Night.

Chicago, April 2.—The six-round match tonight between Young Corbett and young Mowatt was a great event and was won by Corbett. The following is the fight by rounds:

Round 1.—Mowatt tried his right, but missed. Corbett led left to the stomach. He repeated with left and swung right to Mowatt's ear. Mowatt clinched. On the breakaway Corbett reached Mowatt's face with left and swab right. Mowatt tried left jab but missed and clinched. Corbett sent two lefts to Mowatt's face without a return. Corbett led with left and rushed Mowatt to the ropes, landing a series of blows on Mowatt's body.

Round 2.—Corbett landed a left on Mowatt's jaw. Mowatt came back with a right and left to Corbett's face. Corbett swung his right to Mowatt's jaw, then crossed left to the same place, and Mowatt slipped to the floor. They clinched and Mowatt uppercut. Corbett swung his right and went to a clinch. Mowatt reached Corbett's head with both right and left. Corbett sent two left punches to Mowatt's stomach. Mowatt landed right and left on Corbett's jaw.

Round 3.—Corbett tried with left but missed. Then he came back with left to face and right to body. Mowatt missed three times in succession, and Corbett brought his right to Mowatt's stomach. In a clinch that followed Mowatt landed a right swing on Corbett's face. Mowatt sent left to Corbett's nose. Corbett landed both hands on nose. In the mix-up each man landed repeatedly on each other. Near the end of the round Corbett sent his right to Mowatt's stomach and Mowatt came back with his right to Corbett's face.

Round 4.—Mowatt landed left on face. Corbett swung left to Mowatt's head. On the break Mowatt landed a right swing on Corbett's head. Corbett sent his right to Mowatt's stomach. Mowatt uppercut Corbett twice. Corbett played havoc with Mowatt's stomach with short-arm pinches. Mowatt tried with left and Corbett smashed him on the nose with a right swing.

Round 5.—Mowatt jabbed left to Corbett's face and the latter countered with right to body. They clinched and fought fiercely. Mowatt uppercut Corbett several times. On the break Corbett sent left to Mowatt's face and right body. Clinch. On the break Mowatt landed right and left to Corbett's jaw. Corbett sent his right to Mowatt's jaw and the latter staggered against the ropes. Mowatt was weak at the end of the round.

Round 6.—Corbett brought his right to Mowatt's jaw. Corbett played for stomach and landed several blows without a return. Mowatt tried an uppercut and Corbett swung right to body and left to jaw, which staggered Mowatt. Corbett countered with right and jabbed left to Mowatt's face. Corbett sent another right to Mowatt's stomach and they went to a clinch. In the break Corbett landed right and left on Mowatt's head.

Corbett got the decision.

RUSSIAN SQUADRON ARRIVES.

Lisbon, Portugal, April 2.—A Russian squadron has arrived here.

ANOTHER CHANGE.

Railroad Across Lake Baikal Has Been Abandoned.

Irkutsk, April 2.—The railroad across Lake Baikal has ceased operations in consequence of the breaking up of the ice and is being removed. Its assistance to the government in the transportation of the supplies has been incalculable. As an indication of its service, it is stated that between March 2nd and March 28th, there passed over it 4,633 freight cars, 673 troops cars and ordinary passenger coaches carrying officers and 63 engines. The cost of the undertaking was \$250,000.

AFRICAN MANAGER ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING ASSN. CURED OF A SEVERE COLD BY CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

"During my trip in the Transvaal I contracted a heavy cold. I am pleased to state that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gave me prompt relief and after continuing its use for a few days was entirely rid of the distressing indisposition," says Mr. Albert E. Stasny, manager of Anheuser-Busch Brewing Assn., St. Louis, Mo., Africa. This remedy has a world-wide reputation for its cures of colds and can always be depended upon. For sale by all druggists.

DURING THE JAPANESE ON.

Ingenuous Excuse for the Recent Small Victories in Korea.

Paris, April 2.—The military attaché of one of the embassies says it is clearly the plan of General Kuropatkin's strategy to permit the Japanese to have a number of small victories in Northern Korea so as to draw them north toward Lurhun. He adds: "These were the Russian tactics during the Turkish war, they permitting the Turks to win small skirmishes which drew them forward until the Russians were massed at Pleven. The several victories in Northern Korea will go to stimulate the Japanese ambition, so that they will adopt the theory, 'on to Harbin,' which is exactly the point to which General Kuropatkin seeks to lure them."

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinolus Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grover's signature is on each box, 25 cents.

Big Game

Hunting In B. C.

Telegraph Creek an Ideal Spot to Outfit for Good Shooting.

Moose, Cariboo, Big Horn And Grizzly Bear in Abundance.

spoke very highly of the pleasant evening they had spent. The following programme was effectively carried out. All performed their parts so well that special mention would be out of the question. Rev. T. W. Wright, pastor of the church, presided.

Opening hymn; prayer, Mr. W. H. Gibson; chorus, Strawberry Vale choir; solo, Mr. William Hicks; duet (duet and violin), Mr. Matthews and Mr. Holland; address, Mr. Noah Shakespeare; instrumental trio (organ, violin and cornet), Mrs. Ferguson; recitation, Master Peter; Master Case; instrumental music, Mr. Parsons; address, Mr. Abbott; quartet, Miss Deaville, Miss Wild, Mr. C. Deaville and Mr. Wm. Hicks; song, Miss Ferguson; instrumental trio, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Matthews and Mr. Holland; address, Mr. Arthur Lee; chorus, Strawberry Vale choir; instrumental music, Mr. Parsons; song, Miss Deaville; chorus, Mrs. Thomas, Miss Robbins, Miss Cassie Case; instrumental duet, Mr. Matthews and Mr. Holland; song, Miss Auld; instrumental duet, organ and cornet, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson; song, Mr. William Hicks; "God Save the King."

After a brief address by Mr. Shakespeare, setting forth the financial standing of the congregation who had been erecting a new dry-vested shed, a free-will offering was made when the sum of \$27 was received. The congregation appreciate very much the assistance received from Victorians.

Refreshments were served by the ladies.

Local News.

H. H. S. Flora Sails.—Next Friday H. H. S. Flora will proceed to Comox, presumably for light gun practice, as Admiralty orders are to save the heavy ammunition. It is probable that H. H. S. Flora will go south for a while after returning from Comox.

Telegaph Creek is accessible both winter and summer. In summer the Hudson's Bay Company operate a river steamer on the Stickeen from Wrangell, and when the river is frozen dog teams and sleighs are used. Mr. Hyland's last trip out in two days and eight hours reported in last Friday's issue shows how quickly the trip can be made with good material.

The season for moose, cariboo and big horn opens in September and heads are good until about the 1st of January, when the males lose their horns and the heads consequently are worthless as trophies of the chase. Moose are found in abundance towards Dease lake, a distance of about 60 miles.

There are excellent trails everywhere and pack horses can be taken and the hunters can ride. The guides known exactly where the game can be found and hunting in this country is a matter of pure and unadvised pleasure. Caribou are found in much the same locality as the moose, only higher up the mountains. Big horn can be obtained near the head of the Columbia and the deer are abundant within thirty miles of Telegraph Creek.

Grizzly bear are very numerous on the Stickeen river and at Sheslay lake, north of Telegraph Creek. All other species of bear abound and magnificent sport is obtainable all the year round. The skins are good from September to May and it is an easy matter for a good shot to obtain specimens of brown and cinnamon bear, while persons who do not mind taking a chance at a grizzly can always get out if so minded.

"There is no better fishing in the world," said Mr. Hyland. "Trout are about in the rivers and the lakes are full of good edible fish. In the spring and fall gulls and ducks are abundant and anadromous in immense quantities and the pot can be always stocked with such dainties. There are also ptarmigan, blue, ruffed, and Franklin grouse in abundance. The ducks and geese can be knocked over with sticks in mounting time and the Franklin grouse, or as it is called in the up-country, the fool hen, can be killed with a stone or stick at any time. Of course, this is not sport, but the harder has to be kept going when a party of guides and hunters are on the trail and the difficulties help very materially."

The Indians, who are ususally guides, are a most interesting dish out of ptarmigan. They skin and clean the animal and roast it over a big fire suspended from a pole, keeping it spinning all the time it is cooking. They also make most excellent soup out of the flesh."

Mr. Hyland says that all he requires is a few weeks' notice of the desire of party to hunt and everything necessary is provided.

SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL

Held at Strawberry Vale on Thursday Evening Last.

There is "something doing" up at the Assembly hall, judging from the "bunch" of local oarsmen, handball players, basketball enthusiasts and athletes generally which "blow in" there every night to work away at decorating for the J. B. A. ball, which takes place on Friday next.

Jimmy Lawson, in a pair of overalls; Tom Watson, in a passionate red vest; Harry Austin, with his coat off trying to look busy, and Jack Seaman and Parquhar McLean, who are up the bunch of their tennis-arms, and old Dan, who is up all straining their backs stringing up flags, mailing up bunting and putting up fir and mottoes, makes a busy scene. No room for spectators or critics here, and when one of this variety shows up a job is quickly found for him and he joins the glad throng that goes laughing along" putting up decorations for the J. B. A. ball.

This ball will eclipse anything of the kind previously attempted by the J. B. A. A. and, judging from the sale of tickets and the offers of assistance from the "fair sex," all the folks will be there, and all trouble and care will be left far behind them at home."

A GREAT LITTLE WORKER.

During a long life time the heart will pump half a million tons of blood through the body, and so long as the blood is in a healthy condition, it will repair itself as fast as it wastes, patiently keeping up the play of its valves and the rhythm of its beats. In the action of the heart each week, there are 100,000,000 beats, locking in nourishing qualities and requires just such assistance as is best supplied by Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, the great blood purifier and nerve restorative.

NO FUSSING OR FIXING.

Clark's prepared meats in this save a deal of fussing or fixing. With them, good cooking is always assured. For instance try a tin of Clark's Lunch Tongue, it's simply delicious. Wm. Clark's manufacturer, Montreal.



OUR MEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT HAS GOT TO GO!

WE want the room for our rapidly increasing Dry Goods Business, and to make short work of clearing out this department offer:

Every Article Reduced In Price Regardless of Cost

The Hutcheson Co., Ltd., - Victoria, B. C.

Dissolution of Partnership

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned as traders and retail grocers, carrying on business at the corner of Douglas and Yates streets, Victoria, B. C., under the name and style of Mowat & Wallace, has been this day dissolved by mutual consent.

The business will be continued at the old stand by Mr. Robert Mowat, to whom all stock-in-trade, book debts and partnership effects have been assigned, and who has assumed and will pay all partnership liabilities.

Dated at Victoria, B. C., 31st March, 1904.

Witness: F. B. GREGORY.

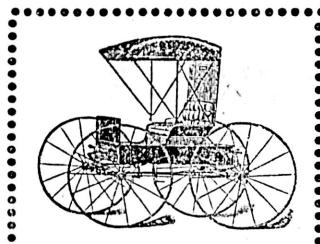
ROBT. MOWAT
WILLIAM O. WALLACE

CARD OF THANKS

Having retired from the firm of Mowat & Wallace, grocers, corner Douglas and Yates streets, Victoria, B. C., I desire to extend my thanks to the numerous customers and patrons of the old firm for their loyal support, and to solicit their continued patronage for my successor, Mr. Robert Mowat.

WILLIAM O. WALLACE

3 CARLOADS



We have just received from the Brantford Carriage Co. 3 carloads of their celebrated

Buggies, Phaetons, Arlingtons, Two-Wheel Carts, Express Wagons, &c.,

in many different styles. These vehicles are made of only the best material and of the latest designs. Our prices will compare favorably with any other first-class work. Call and examine or send for catalogue.

E. G. PRIOR & Co., Ltd., L'Y.
VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, KAMLOOPS.

For Hawaii Samoa, New Zealand and Australia

THIRD ANNUAL

DOG SHOW

—OF—
The Victoria City Kennel Club

Will Be Held In

Philharmonic Hall, Fort Street,

APRIL 6, 7, 8, 9.

John Davidson, of Munroe, Mich., who has judged dogs for over 50 years, will judge all classes.

The dogs will be the greatest show we have ever held. Cash prizes in all classes and over 300 specials. A prize for every dog in the show, and lots of them. Entries close March 23rd; don't forget the date.

T. P. McCONNELL, Secy.

55 Johnson Street.

The Edison Theatre

James H. Erickson, Proprietor and Manager.

Special Easter Week Programme.

Euillibrista Extraordinary

2—the Ahrens—2

An Act Without an Equal.

First Appearance of

Mr. Walter Kellogg

Illustrated Song, "The Faces in the Firelight."

The Original Comedian and Singer

Son Flower

Who loves to talk about the girls.

Return Engagement of

Lester and Lester

In the Comedy Sketch, "Rip! Rip! Rip! Rip!"

Long List of New Moving Pictures.

NOTICE—Matinees Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 2:45, and Saturday, 2:30 p. m. sharp.

Tenders will be received up to Tuesday, April 5th, for alterations to a building on the corner of Fort and Broad street.

F. W. RATTEBURY, Architect.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

FISHING TACKLE AND RODS

We intend to clear out our entire stock at greatly reduced prices, as we don't intend to handle the above any more. Call and judge for yourselves.

BAZAAR,

81 Johnson Street, near Broad

Valuable Waterfrontage FOR SALE

Lots 201 and 203, Victoria City, situated at the foot of Yates Street, with wharf over 100 feet long, and two large warehouses.

For particulars apply to

J. STUART YATES

The Colonist.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 1904.

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability.

No. 27 Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.
A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE COLONIST CIRCULATION

FIGURES TELL THE TALE

Daily Average, 1902 3552

Daily Average, 1903 3695

Daily Average, Feb., 1903 3526

Daily Average, Feb., 1904 4381

March 31st, 1903 3490

Mar. 31st, 1904 4150

Circulation books open to all.

Advertising contracts made on this basis.

THE FISHERIES COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

We publish today the bulk of the annual report of the Provincial Fisheries Commissioner, which was issued yesterday. At a time when the condition and prospects of the salmon fishery are attracting so much attention, Mr. Babcock's statement as to the dangers that threaten this important industry through the neglect of any action on the other side of the boundary will be read with interest. His remarks will be closely followed by many of our citizens who, as the result of the establishment of traps in the vicinity of Victoria, hope to see a new and important canary industry adding to the city's industrial and commercial activity.

Although he has evidently compressed his report into the smallest compass that the number and importance of the details dealt with made possible, the Commissioner has given an exhaustive account of the methods which the Department is pursuing for the preservation and extension of an industry in which such a large amount of capital is invested and on which thousands of people are more or less dependent for a livelihood. In Mr. Babcock's opinion the gain by artificial propagation over Nature's methods is so great that by the aid of more hatcheries the productiveness of the fishery may be largely increased. It seems to us that his report on the manner in which any proposals for the preservation of the fishery have been ignored in the neighboring State of Washington, should cause the Provincial Government to endeavor to bring about a better state of things in that respect.

We think there will be no difference of opinion in the Province in regard to one matter—the control of the Fisheries. While the Dominion and Provincial governments both have some authority, the dual control cannot tend to the efficiency of the administration of the industry. Nor is it equitable that while the Provincial Government incurs considerable expense in connection with the fishery, the Dominion Government receives the revenue derived from it. The whole question should be dealt with as soon as possible.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SUR-
RENDER.

Scarcely was the ink dry on our article of Tuesday last, commanding the action of the Dominion Government in discontinuing the concession, whereby American vessels on this Coast have been granted the privilege of engaging in the Canadian coasting trade, before a notification was received by the local Customs officials that the Government had decided to annul the order—council passed as late as March 15th last, and renew the privilege to American vessels. Such astounding inconsistency and irresolution on the part of the Dominion Government is simply inexplicable. If there are good reasons now for a continuance of the suspension of the Canadian coasting regulations, they must have existed when the order-in-council was passed last month abrogating that privilege. No one engaged in business with the Yukon Territory is aware of any change in the conditions; Canadian shipowners having vessels in the Victoria-Vancouver-Yukon trade do not know of any alteration in the arrangements for the freight and passenger traffic that would suggest this extraordinary and sudden change in the Government's decision. As regards public sentiment in British Columbia there is nothing to cause the abandonment on March 30th of the decision of March 15th. On the contrary, the Provincial press, both Liberal and Conservative, commanded the Government's earlier policy—of protecting Canadian interests in the operation of our coasting business. Therefore, neither Liberal nor Conservative newspapers can do much else but condemn an administration for such a complete reversal of its former definite decision. To do otherwise would convict the journal attempting it of being as inconsistent as the Government at Ottawa—a position that no well-conducted newspaper would like to hold in the view of its readers. We do not think any parallel to such an extraordinary instance of vacillation and inconsistency on the part of a responsible administration, as that which we are considering, can be found in the political history of Canada. We assume that some attempt at an explanation or apology will be made at Ottawa, since even there the ridiculous and humiliating position in which the Dominion Government has placed itself before not only the people of Canada but those of the United States, must be realized. On what grounds such an excuse or apology can be based, it passes our comprehension to conceive. One thing is certain that those directly interested in Canadian shipping, both in Victoria and Vancouver, have heard with amazement of the Government's abandonment of the situation at which it had arrived only a few days previously.

Only one reason has been alleged in explanation of the Government's action, and it is one that can scarcely be mentioned without bringing shame and confusion to every Canadian. That is the suggestion that the clamor of a few interested parties in the United States, who saw in the limitation of our coasting trade to Canadian vessels a loss of business for themselves, is the reason for the annulment of the order-in-council repealing the suspension of the law. Such weakness on the part of a Canadian administration is almost unthinkable. Yet it seems impossible to conceive of any other reason. Matters then, must have come to a pretty pass when questions affecting Canadian interests are decided, not at Ottawa, but at Washington, or, perchance, at some other point in the United States, where local interests may be prejudicially affected by an insistence on compliance with laws in the Statute Book of the Dominion of Canada. It is easy to understand that a few American shipowners having vessels which have been engaged in the Yukon trade since the suspension of the Canadian coasting regulations, or a few American merchants interested in that trade, may have been made angry because the Canadian Government had followed the method so thoroughly understood and followed at Washington that the trade of a country should be protected for the benefit of the people of that country. Only a few days ago we referred to the angry articles in the American press which the Dominion Government's action had called forth. But what of that? Are we under any obligations to grant privileges to aliens at the expense of our own people? Do we find our neighbors making concessions to us similar to that which for seven years we have granted them in this Yukon trade? To both questions an emphatic negative must be given. But American shipowners have again to recede the fact that Canada's policy, Canada's administrative methods, can be dictated from a foreign country, and in favor of foreign interests, if a demand is made and properly supported by threats of retaliation and vows of vengeance in the objectionable policy of the omnibus regulation be not abandoned and one approved by foreign interests be substituted for it. And to-day we are compelled to admit, in view of the Government's sacrifice of Canadian interests in this matter, that that opinion is fully justified.

This incident should be an object lesson to us. It means that a friendly concession, the granting of some exceptional privilege, will be taken by those on whom such an advantage may be conferred, as constituting a claim for such favors being permanent. This coasting privilege was conceded in 1897, and when made it was clearly understood that it was only temporary and not likely to be of long continuance. But it has been renewed from time to time, and those to whom it was granted practically insist that to withdraw it would not only be unfriendly, an unneighborly act, but one that would entitle them to retaliate on Canada as a species of compensation. It is in this way that Canada has suffered serious losses in the past. For the future we should take a leaf out of the American book and decide that, if only for the sake of good neighborhood, it will best promote satisfactory and harmonious relations between the two countries if we insist, as do our neighbors, upon all matters between them and us being conducted on a strictly business basis. This coasting business is not the only one, or even the most important, in which our neighbors demand an unfair arrangement. At the present time the Canadian lumber trade is suffering from a one-sided fiscal arrangement. A five-barred gate against Canadian lumber being exported into the United States, while the American lumberman finds all the bars down when he thinks it profitable to export his lumber to Canada. In this lumber business, as in this coasting question, we find that the eyes of the Dominion Government are directed to Washington rather than towards Canadian interests and that the threats of foreigners have more influence at Ottawa than the reasonable requests of our own people.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

A. DE COSMOS, Editor.

Sunday, April 2, 1859.

The government has used every trick and scheme known to the imagination to distract the legitimate revenue of these colonies from its proper channel, and moreover it drops into the great jaws of the H. B. C. dollar trap. How well they have succeeded no one knows; and those who do know, are unwilling to believe, will be convinced when they are compelled to pay three or four shillings on the pound, to keep the "name" of state from sinking. . . . Our assemblymen can remedy a few of these evils before they break up; but with the present state of main powerlessness. They must raise voices in one body, and demand the removal of Governor Douglas by the Home Government—and with him will the most grinding abuses from which we suffer go out. Those that remain, of our elected law makers will change.

The Newfoundland Fisheries. — The French seafaring Testostris has brought to Brest harbor an account of terrible plating by fishermen at St. John's, Newfoundland, in consequence of French encroachments on the river fishing as well as coast banks in that colony. The present officials are accused of playing into the hands of the foreigners by putting a new and false interpretation on existing treaties. Mr. Judge Little is said to be one of the men that have fallen by the wayside. —

It is understood that a contract for 1,400 tons a day of coal from this camp to be shipped on the Great Northern has been entered into by the company, and this will mean a big payroll here. All the men that can be procured will be given work in Morrissey camp, and the works are expected to run here the summer, and the sides will move out through and there is no lack of ears, the mines are now employing all men available at present, which strengthens the belief that the summer's expectations will be realized. — Morrissey Despatch.

The many friends of John R. Sutherland, for some time operator at the Canadian station, will regret the loss of a dear friend this morning at New Westminster, while undergoing an operation for an old-standing trouble which had long been a menace to his health. It will be remembered that last fall he had the misfortune to fall, breaking the bones of his arm. He went to the Coast to visit his relatives and friends, and while there the old trouble recurred, and he was compelled to return home, an operation performed as the only way of obtaining permanent relief. The deceased made many warm friends here, and his amiable and unexpected death is keenly felt by them. — Kamloops Sentinel.

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In South Africa, the situation is comparatively simple. The great gold mines of the Rand are there to be worked. The Kaffirs will work but fitfully; when their few wants are supplied they can be coerced into laboring. For white miners in the mines is difficult and dangerous. The white owners say that it is impossible to run the mines with white labor and pay the wages demanded. Therefore, it is urged either the mines which supply one-third of the world's product must permanently close with effects

as dire as those of the unscrupulous monopoly.

The eldest daughter of Queen Victoria is the mother of a young prince — an

only son who has been alleged in explanation of the Government's action, and it is one that can scarcely

be mentioned without bringing shame and confusion to every Canadian. That is the suggestion that the clamor of a few interested parties in the United States, who saw in the limitation of our coasting trade to Canadian vessels a loss of business for themselves, is the reason for the annulment of the order-in-council repealing the suspension of the law. Such weakness on the part of a Canadian administration is almost unthinkable. Yet it seems impossible to conceive of any other reason.

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After the Battle

Use Bowes' Corn Cure, 25c.
Gives quick relief. :: :: ::

CYRUS H. BOWES, Chemist.

Two Phones, 425 and 450. 98 Government St., Near Yates St., Victoria, B. C.

DON'T COUGH STOP IT

Fishing Tackle

Everything from a 5c. line to a \$15.00 trout rod.

Complete Outfits to suit any purpose.

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HALL & CO.,

Dispensing Chemists, Clarence Block,
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BUSINESS LOCALS.

Special—Carpenters' Tools at Cheap
prices.

Hot water heaters for baths, etc.; fuel
saver. See Clarke & Pearson's, Yates
street.

FOTOGRAPHS.

A new display of Pictures is being
exhibited at Savannah's entrance, Five
Sisters' Block.

Gardening Tools at Chempside.

J. & J. Taylor's
Fire Proof
Safes and
Vault Doors.

John Barnsley & Co.,
Agents,

116 GOVERNMENT ST.

ORIENTAL BAR

Very Otolocent of Liquors, Cigars, etc.
Only the best kept.

JOS. DUBOIS.

Victoria Transfer Company

LIMITED.

Best Equipped Hack and Livery Stable in

the Province.

All Rubber-Tired Hacks and Finest
Livery Turnouts. Buggies, Furniture and
Freight handled at reasonable rates and
with dispatch.

9, 21, 23, Broughton St. Phone 12

THE B C DRUG STORE

27 JOHNSON STREET

J. TEAGUE, JR.

Don't forget to send your friends appropriate Easter Greetings. A fine selection of Easter Cards at Hibben & Company's.

FOR SALE
7-Roomed Bungalow

All modern conveniences

AT BEACON HILL

Moderate Price—

—Easy Terms

Money to Loan.

Stores and Dwellings to Let.

Fire Insurance Written.

P. R. BROWN, Ltd.

30 BROAD STREET.

Just to Hand

Spring Styles

In Felt Hats

Fashions Latest Devices

— In —

Headwear

For Men

Direct From The Manufacturers and Made Expressly For

W. & J. WILSON

Clothers, Hatters and Haberdashers.

83 GOVERNMENT - Street

New Stock War Maps, 25c. and 40c.
Victoria Book and Stationery Co., Ltd.

New Stock War Maps, 25c. and 40c.
Victoria Book and Stationery Co., Ltd.

Exclusion Act Has Flaws.—The attitude of Chinaman seems to have discovered a way to get into Canada without paying the \$100 head tax, consisting of a secret service man. They were on their way to St. John's, Newfoundland. After a short stay there they can easily become British citizens and can enter Canada free.

Death of Miss Fraser.—The death occurred yesterday morning at the family residence, Carrisbrook, 55 Alfred street, of Miss Agnes Healing Fraser, eldest daughter of A. B. Fraser, sr. Deceased, who had been invalid for the past two years, was 31 years of age, and a native of Liverpool, England. She came to Victoria six years ago with her father. The funeral will take place tomorrow (Monday) afternoon.

Business Change.—Announcement is made that the grocery firm of Mowat & Wallace has dissolved. Mr. Wallace retires from the business, which will henceforth be conducted by Robert Mowat. This firm has conducted one of the most flourishing businesses in the city during the past year or two, and it is the intention of Mr. Mowat to conduct it on the same up-to-date lines in future. Mr. Wallace has not decided as yet what he will do.

Ferguson-Turpin—Rev. W. Baugh Allen, at Christ church cathedral yesterday evening, united in marriage John Henry Ferguson, of this city, and Miss Adelpha Blanche Turpin, of Portland, Ore. Only the immediate friends of the contracting parties were present.

Purchase Cannery.—It is understood that R. V. Winch, the well-known canneryman, has purchased the establishment recently owned by Peter Herman at Skeena river. With Mr. Winch, it is said, are associated Mr. H. Doyle and others.

Schools Closed.—The schools will be closed all next week. Easter Monday is always a holiday, while the annual convention of the Provincial Teachers' Institute, the three days following, will involve a relaxation from lessons the remainder of the week. A large number of the Victoria teachers will attend the meeting.

Sale of Work.—On Wednesday next an apron sale will be held at the Y. M. C. A., when afternoon tea will be served. In the evening an entertainment will be given for which an exceptionally good programme is being prepared. The Ladies' Auxiliary and a number of the friends of the association are interesting themselves in this event, which promises to be most successful.

Shows Elaborate Gowns.—Few women upon the American stage today dress as elaborately as Rose Coghlan. In "The Greatest Thing in the World" she will appear at the Victoria theatre Saturday evening next, attired in four gowns designed by a leading New York modiste, intended for ballroom, for tea, for driving and for morning wear. A description of these gowns has appeared in the society columns of this paper. Besides Miss Coghlan herself, five other ladies have an opportunity to display four gowns each. Miss Coghlan has surrounded herself with remarkably handsome women, "most charmingly tall," and the display of her attire is calculated to impress ladies' guests as well as the fact that the play itself is a direct appeal to the heart of every mother and every mother's son.

Civics By-laws.—Returning Officer

Mr. Harris Honored.—Charles A. E. Harris, director of the McGill University Conservatory of Music, has had the honor to receive, through His Excellency the Governor-General, the thanks of the King and Queen for presentation copies of his "Coronation Mass," Edward VII, which their Majesties have been graciously pleased to accept.

Conygeal Home—All arrangements have now been completed for the A. G. U. benefit concert in aid of the Conygeal Home to be established. Contributors to the refreshment tables are asked to leave their donations at the A. G. U. hall from 2 till 4 tomorrow afternoon, or by telephoning No. 39 they will be sent for.

Easter Social.—The Easter social under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society of the First Presbyterian church, to be held next Wednesday evening in the schoolroom of the church, promises to be of very interesting character. A number of new and popular songs will take part, refreshments will be served, and the whole to conclude with a series of tableaux, which will be both amusing and instructive. Further information regarding the programme will be given later.

Le Petit Crystal Theatre.—The performances for the ensuing week at the handsome little theatre in the Dawson block promises to be something extraordinary. One of the attractions worthy of more than passing mention is "The Ray" in an up-to-date sketch, introducing "Baby Ray" who has been the hit and admiration of New York's little circles. She is only five years of age, and the challenge of \$700 stands good for the production of her equal. Next on the bill comes Dr. Hollis and Valora, who are direct from France and making their first appearance before the public in the Crystal tomorrow. They are said to be among France's foremost entertainers. The next attraction is the "Mysterious Trunk" as produced by Hermann the Great, and also said to be very interesting. Len Spencer, the phenomenal baritone singer, will appear in the beautiful illustrated song, "A Rabbi's Daughter." This song was first introduced by Spencer himself in Chicago and Milwaukee, and was a brilliant success. The moving pictures are all new and partake more particularly of the comical side of the question.

Will Visit Victoria.—It has been arranged that the members of the Dominion Medical Association, which meets this week in Vancouver during the last week in August, will come to Victoria and spend two days in sightseeing.

The party will come over on the Princess Victoria and on the following day a run will be made to William Head quarantining station, which will be inspected by the visitors. The return to Victoria will be made by way of Esquimalt, and thence to the city. Upon arriving in the city, about 4 or 5 o'clock, it is expected that a grand reception will be held for them at the legislative buildings. The following day will be given over to visiting the points of interest, plant life, etc., including the sea drives, and in the afternoon Esquimalt and the Naval Hospital will be taken.

In a trip up the Arm by moonlight is also contemplated on the second day of the stay in this city. A band concert will be given also on that evening.

Interesting Lecture.—Rev. Mr. Whitington of Vancouver gave a very interesting and instructive address on Thursday evening in the Metropolitan church on the subject of "Flaggan and the Japanese." Abraham Smith, Esq., the United States Consul, presided and introduced the doctor with a few well-chosen remarks upon the efforts of Commodore Perry and General Grant in opening up the "Land of the Rising Sun" to the commerce of the civilized world. Mrs. Stinehard favored the audience with a very excellent solo, which was received with satisfaction.

The Seizing Claims—Word has been received from London that the Canadian and Russian commissioners, appointed to adjust the damage due to Canadian seafarers for unwaranted seizure at the hands of Russian craft, have agreed upon the figure so far as one class of claims is concerned. Before the award is final, however, it must be confirmed by the Russian government, and till this is done particulars are withheld. The commissioners are now working on the remaining claims.

Sad News.—Mr. Thomas Cunningham, Provincial Fire Inspector, has received the sad news of the death of his elder brother, Mr. Henry Cunningham, ex-Mayor of Broughton. The deceased gentleman was a retired manufacturer and one of the leading citizens of the Limestone City. He was a chairman of the late Sir John A. Macdonald's committee in several of his election campaigns and had always taken an active part in Dominion and municipal affairs.

Why Not Victoria?—Says the Vancouver News-Advertiser of yesterday: "The members of the Mainland Board of Fire Underwriters met yesterday morning to discuss the question as to where they should spend their annual holiday. It is customary for them to take three or four days off in May, and this year will be no exception to the rule. Last season they went to Harrison Hot Springs, but it is not yet known where they will go this time. A committee was appointed to select a place and report at the next meeting, which takes place a week from today."

Visiting Authoress.—Mrs. Maude E. Macleod, of Lewis street, is another writer of ability added to Victoria's literary personages. Mrs. Macleod has had a wide experience as a newspaper reporter and special writer in the States, since she came to this city she has contributed illustrated articles of the Yukon country to the "Canadian Magazine," "Westminster," and the "Todays' Photo" blade. She has just completed a lengthy article on the birth of the Republican party fifty years ago. The basis of the article is personal reminiscences of the meeting of the organization by men who took an official part. This will be illustrated by original photographs and published in Harper's Weekly before the anniversary celebration next July at Jackson, Michigan.

Juvenile Inquisitiveness.—"What Children Want to Know" is the title of very interesting paper which Miss Agnes Dunn, a young woman, principal of South Park school, contributed to the Educational Monthly in March. The character of Miss Cameron's article is clearly indicated in the opening paragraph: "It is usual for teachers to propound questions, and for children to answer them, and there is no doubt about which is the easier task of the two. To reverse matters, and also, if possible, to find out what is passing in the thoughts of my children, I yesterday confronted them with this demand: 'Suppose this morning an all-wise man were to enter our classroom, one who could and would answer any question you chose to put to him, what six things would you ask?' The answers ranged from: 'Is it true we were once monkeys?' to 'When will the Donkeys become human, be sensible and eat proper food?'

Edison Theatre.—There is an especially strong bill of attractions offered the Easter week visitors to Victoria, the Edison. The programme is headed by the two Ahrens, equilibrista extraordinary, who have an act the equal of which has never been seen here. "Sun Flower," a monologist, is a head liner in his profession, and is sure to please the Victoria audiences. Lester and Lester, many will remember, made a big hit when they were here before. He is a troupe and she as a very vivacious "brette" who sang and danced so exceedingly well. Mr. Walter Kellogg, a promising young tenor makes his first appearance and will sing the very popular "The Fairies in the Forest." "Light" will be illustrated vividly. There is a long list of new and novel moving pictures showing "Jan. Soldiers" Wrestling on a "Man-o'-War," "Japan Loading and Firing a six-pound gun," "Cohen's Advertising," etc. Special attention is called to the matinees days as follows: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, at 2:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m. sharp.

The Cotillion Club will meet on Tuesday instead of Thursday this week.

Railroad Social.—All those taking part in the forthcoming "railroad social" are asked to assemble at Semple's hall, Victoria West, on Monday evening.

City Council.—Tomorrow there will be no session of the city council. The regular weekly meeting will be held on Tuesday evening.

Weekly Dance.—Owing to the J. B. A. ball occurring on Friday, the usual weekly dance by Mrs. Dickenson and Mrs. Simpson will be held on Wednesday evening.

Friendly Help.—The regular monthly meeting of the Friendly Help Association will be held in the rooms, Market hall, on Tuesday, April 5th, at 11 a.m. Full attendance of members is requested.

Ferguson-Turpin—Rev. W. Baugh

Allen, at Christ church cathedral yesterday evening, united in marriage John Henry Ferguson, of this city, and Miss Adelpha Blanche Turpin, of Portland, Ore.

Only the immediate friends of the contracting parties were present.

Purchase Cannery.—It is understood that R. V. Winch, the well-known canneryman, has purchased the establishment recently owned by Peter Herman at Skeena river. With Mr. Winch, it is said, are associated Mr. H. Doyle and others.

Schools Closed.—The schools will be closed all next week. Easter Monday is always a holiday, while the annual convention of the Provincial Teachers' Institute, the three days following, will involve a relaxation from lessons the remainder of the week. A large number of the Victoria teachers will attend the meeting.

Sale of Work.—On Wednesday next an apron sale will be held at the Y. M. C. A., when afternoon tea will be served.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

OF

The Bank of British North America

PRESENTED TO THE PROPRIETORS AT THEIR SIXTY-EIGHTH YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

Dr. Balance Sheet for Half Year Ending 31st December, 1903.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Capital	1,000,000	0	0			
20,000 Shares of £50 each fully paid						
To Reserve Fund	400,000	0	0			
To Deposits and Current Acc.	3,364,020	17	10			
To Bills Payable and other Liabilities, including provision for Contingencies	2,876,382	8	10			
To Rebate Account	22,511	1	8			
To Liabilities on Endorsements	4328,604	13	11			
To Profit and Loss Account—Balance brought forward from 30th June, 1903—	35,405	15	5			
Dividend paid October, 1903 30,000 0 0						
Net profit for the half-year ending this date, after deducting all current charges and providing for bad and doubtful debts	42,468	2	11			
Deduct:						
Transferred to Reserve Fund	10,000 0 0					
Transferred to Officers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund	513 14 0					
Do. Special Donation	102 2 6					
Transferred to Officers' Pension Fund	502 1 0					
Balance available for April	11,117	17	0			
Dividend	36,756	0	10			
£8,287,907	6	4				

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books in London, and the Certified Returns from the Branches, and find it to present a true statement of the bank's affairs.

EDWIN WATERHOUSE, Of the Firm of
GEORGE SNEATH, Price, Waterhouse & Co.,
Auditors, Chartered Accountants.

London, 22nd February, 1904.

Reprinted from The Money Market Review, March 12th, 1904.

The yearly general meeting of proprietors was held on Tuesday last at the London office, 5 Gracechurch street, E. C., Mr. J. J. Carter presiding.

The secretary (Mr. A. G. Wallis) read the notice convening the meeting.

The chairman said: "The report and balance-sheet having been in your hands for several days, I suppose you will take them as read? (Heart beat.)

That being so, ladies and gentlemen, it becomes my duty to move that the report and balance-sheet be received and adopted, but before doing so I purpose, with your permission, of referring to some remarks on some items therein, and to compare some of the figures with those of December, 1902, omitting shillings and pence. The capital remains the same, but the reserve has been increased to £400,000 by the transfer of £10,000 out of the profits of the year 1903, and will be the policy of the Court to add to the reserve as we are enabled out of the annual profits until it reaches at least £400,000, or 50 per cent of the capital. Deposits and current accounts have increased £25,532. Notes in circulation show a decrease of £27,825. Bills payable and other liabilities are £160,171 less, which arises chiefly from a reduction in this bank's acceptances. They fluctuate from time to time, and call for no special remark. Liabilities on endorsements, £328,634, represent bills discounted by this bank and not matured by December 31st, 1903. Most of them have run off since the end of the year, and from the quality of the bills themselves the risk is so small that it is not taken into account. The profit and loss items I will deal with later.

TRANSFERS TO PENSION FUNDS.

Your sanction is asked to the transfers of £513 14s. and £102 2 6d. special to the officers' widows' and orphans' fund, and £502 1s. to the officers' pension fund. Turning to the credit side of the balance-sheet, you will find the cash and specie at bankers and in hand show an increase of £165,814, whilst the cash at call and short notice is £357,222 less, the net decrease being £117,408. The percentage of these sums of cash £2,322,851, is 34 per cent of the liabilities to the public, £6,826,638 per cent, the percentage in 1902 being 36,34 per cent. In each case the provision of cash accepted, simple or otherwise, and for safety. Consols have been written down to 86 at a cost of £9,000 out of the profits. The value on December 31st having been £8, there then was a margin of 2 per cent, and although Consols since have been below 86, it appears not unlikely that the value will not fall permanently much below 85 unless the war in the Far East should become extended and involve other European powers. The other items of War Loan and Exchequer bonds remain as before, the investment of £14,000 in Canada bonds transferred to Mr. McWhirter and Mr. Heagre at the March meeting, 1903, and was fully explained in the report to June 30th, 1903, sent to the shareholders in September last, as being necessary owing to the continued expansion of the note circulation of this bank, the bonds being held for deposit with the Dominion government as provided by Section 51 of the Bank Act, 1901. The premium of over £4,000 was written off out of the profits of the half-year June 30th, 1903.

OTHER SECURITIES

Other securities, £147,688, are £51,401 less, their book cost on December 31st was less than the market value of that date. Their security loans on securities, etc., £5,224,912, show an increase of £132,915. In bank premises, £150,351, there is an increase of £27,539. This increase is due to new buildings in Winnipeg and Ottawa and alterations at Toronto and several branches where. Many of the old branch buildings are now redundant and were both inconvenient and inadequate for the public and the staff, and it has been necessary to modernize them to enlarge or to rebuild them, and in Ottawa we have removed the bank to a more central business locality. The changes generally have given unqualified satisfaction, and resulted in a considerable accession of business to the bank. An independent valuation of all the bank's properties has been made, and the result is that the actual value considerably exceeds the nominal value, which stands to us, that we have opened three new branches and one sub-branch compensating for the short catch. It was hoped in Halifax that the construction of the Panama canal by the United States may lead to a large consumption of timber, and that with the acquisition of fresh markets amongst the fourteen million people who eat fish in South America. The value of the Nova Scotia fisheries last year was nearly eight million dollars, of which four and one-quarter million dollars' value was exported. Coal mines in Nova Scotia were increasing their output, and the production last year was over four and one-half million tons. Mining in the Kootenay and Boundary districts has again increased, and the estimate of production in

1903 was nearly ten million dollars' value of gold, silver, copper, etc., and also two million dollars' value of coal and coke; but the total, including Vancouver, was put at about twenty million dollars to twenty-one million dollars. At Dawson City the output was about eleven million dollars, and the prospects were considered good for trade and mining.

A discovery of a new goldfield, about 150 miles from White Horse, was reported. Transportation—Canada is now stated by old inhabitants to be experiencing the worst winter for sixty years. Forty-five inches of snow fell during January in Ontario, and there were many trains blocked in fifteen feet or more of snow drifts. Locomotion of all kinds was much impeded and tedious, and trade was much interrupted. Whilst such weather is most regrettable, one must not forget the fact that a good snowfall abates the lumbermen's logs to the streams, which, in turn, rises with the melting of the snow, and brings the logs to market.

CANALS IN CANADA.

Canada has over 100 miles of canals, which permit fair-sized steamers to get up inland to the head of Lake Superior—1,000 miles from Montreal. There are also 19,000 miles of railroads in operation, and a new line from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean is projected by the Grand Trunk Railway Company, which would in time open out new and fertile regions, and possibly afford employment for the miner.

Generally, the business outlook is good, but the bad weather in Canada and the Presidential election in the United States next autumn tend to inspire caution and discourage speculation. Banking, it is said, follows upon trade, and it is therefore not surprising, with active business in 1902 and 1903, to find that many of the banks were opening new branches throughout the Dominion, and in some cases issuing new capital, making the total paid-up capital of banks in Canada £8 million dollars. Deposits in the banks increased by about 20 million dollars, and the total assets of all banks by £8 million dollars to £63 million dollars. The total note circulation was nearly £3 million dollars, or three million dollars over that of 1902. The banking profits of 1903, though good, were generally not equal to those of the record year 1902. I have trespassed too long upon your time, ladies and gentlemen, and will only add—Let us hope that peace and prosperity may continue in 1904, and that when the next balance-sheet is placed before you it may meet with your entire approval. I may beg to move the following resolution: "That the report and balance-sheet presented be received and adopted."

Mr. Henry R. Farrer seconded the resolution.

SHAREHOLDERS' REMARKS.

Mr. Powell, then read the report on the whole, was a satisfactory one. He would be glad, however, when the time came and the directors saw their way to distributing a larger amount, although he did not think that could be done at present.

Mr. Chairman, in reply, said that when the bank paid 10 per cent there was less competition than now, and they were times of greater prosperity. He was afraid they could not look forward in the near future to a repetition of 1902. Timber limits have also sold at extremely high prices, and it is satisfactory to notice that the Ontario and Nova Scotia governments are encouraging the study of forestry and the rearing of young trees in the denuded forests. Canada is now the principal source of supply, and Russia is timber to a lessened extent. British Columbia has also done well with her timber trade.

AGRICULTURE IN CANADA.

Agriculture has prospered in Canada as a whole in 1903, and has done so well, with an increase of seven years of beautiful crops of grain. The yield of wheat in Manitoba in 1903 was fifty-one million bushels, and prices were 12 cents to 15 cents per bushel higher, whilst the crop of 1904 is expected to be the largest known in that district.

Immigration, partly of experienced farmers from the Western States of America, brought 135,000 people into Manitoba, in addition to some 70,000 persons in 1902, and it is fortunate for the country that so good a proportion of the production has been fully compensated by better prices for the manufactured articles, and many mill owners sold their next season's cut at an advance of 10 per cent on the cut of 1902. Timber limits have also sold at extremely high prices, and it is satisfactory to notice that the Ontario and Nova Scotia governments are encouraging the study of forestry and the rearing of young trees in the denuded forests. Canada is now the principal source of supply, and Russia is timber to a lessened extent. British Columbia has also done well with her timber trade.

COMMERCE AND BANKING.

The annual reports of our managers on commerce and banking during 1903 are full of interest, and I will give you a few remarks on the trade of Canada, etc. With regard to lumber, both wages and the cost of supplies have increased, but the enhanced cost of production has been fully compensated by better prices for the manufactured articles, and many mill owners sold their next season's cut at an advance of 10 per cent on the cut of 1902. Timber limits have also sold at extremely high prices, and it is satisfactory to notice that the Ontario and Nova Scotia governments are encouraging the study of forestry and the rearing of young trees in the denuded forests. Canada is now the principal source of supply, and Russia is timber to a lessened extent. British Columbia has also done well with her timber trade.

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THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Cottages For Sale!

3 commodious, well-planned Cottages for sale within easy reach of the tram and within easy walking distance of the centre of the city.

PEMBERTON & SON
45 FORT STREET

"Seed Potatoes"

Early Rose, Burbanks, Beauty of Elburn, Flower Balls. All choice hand-picked selected stock.

The Sylvester Feed Co., 87-89 YATES STREET Tel. 413.

"Made In Canada" Fair Exhibits

Various Local Manufacturers to Be Well Represented.

A List of Those Who Have Promised Assistance Thus Far.

The preparations for the "Made in Canada" fair and local manufacturers exhibit, are going on apace. It is safe to affirm that a complete surprise awaits those who visit the fair in the large exhibit of goods manufactured in Victoria to be displayed there. This will be a great source of civic pride. Almost a complete picture of those industries in Victoria which produce articles in common use will be presented in the main hall. The beautiful scheme and general decoration, the background of the fair, displays the attractiveness of the booths themselves and the picturesque costumes of the young ladies kindly advertising the local goods, will make a scene of beauty and activity which is rare in the annals of the city.

Among the interesting local exhibits will be that of Mr. Price, of the Price Preserving Company. Those who visit this display will get an instructive view of the making of a delicacy especially dear to children's hearts. A novel sensation awaits those who investigate the contents of the booth devoted to the products of the Pioneer Spice and the Brady-Houston Packing Company. The booth of Mr. Sayaman, photographer, will be an artistic presentation, which none who see will forget. Not less interesting—though outside the realm of art—will be the exhibit of Brown & Cooper's fine smoked fish, and that of the flavoring extracts manufactured by Henderson Bros. A dainty stall will be devoted to the boxes of fancy paper articles made by Hibben's, and it is safe to say that the extent and variety of this manufacture will come at a revelation. The well-known and delicious cereals of Brackman-Ker will have a conspicuous place, this firm being the first of the local firms to recognize the value of such an advertisement.

Such widely differing manufactured articles as Fairall's aerated waters and Hilt's fireworks will show the diversity of the manufacturing interests to be represented at the fair.

The new shirt waists for men in Mr. Piercy's display will attract masculine attention, as will also the fine exhibit of Lenz & Leiser of Canadian woolen goods sold in their factories. The large corner booths, fitted up by Weier Bros, with their own make of furniture, etc., will give pleasing suggestions to housekeepers. The Kryshin Manufacturing Co. will present their cleansing fluids in an attractive manner.

Indeed, every article will be displayed at the novel decorative schemes possible, the advertising of local products, etc. In addition, Piercy's booth will be itself a pretty pictorial view, aside from its general decoration. Those attending the fair will be especially drawn to the handsome display of the clothing manufactured in the large workrooms of Turner, Beeton & Co. One may reasonably expect also that interest will centre about the toothsome demonstrations of the Economy Flour Co., which will afford a practical lesson to young housekeepers especially.

Then attention cannot fail to be directed to the varied flower pots, urns, and so on, of the B. C. Pottery Co., and to the candies made at the Little Sweetland; those delicacies can be easily tested. A pretty display will be that of Terry & Marrett, whose Italian water will be made a specialty. The clean-all fluid which has proved such a boon to housekeepers will also be seen in Geo. Morrison's exhibit, and other cleanliness and druggists have promised samples of their own manufacture in various perfumes, etc.

This is only a first resume of the various exhibits entered for the fair. Others will follow in due course, and it is hoped that a very permanent inspiration may be given through its means to our local pretties—many of which only need to be tried to be approved.

In connection with the fair will be various other attractions of interest. A woman's exchange promises to be exceptionally well managed. An original cool booth will be for sale, fitted with satisfactory and tried receipts distributed by our most experienced housekeepers, and tea and refreshments will be served during the afternoon and evening.

OCEAN CURRENTS.

Froude's "Blue-Eyed Skipper" Taking Daily Records.

For 39 years Capt. Alexander Simpson, of the American liner *Mormania*, has made regular voyages between London and Australia.

In 1888 he commenced a daily practice while at sea of throwing overboard one or more bottles containing instructions and an address for the finder, for the purpose of ascertaining the course of ocean currents.

Capt. Simpson says he hears of about 5 per cent of the bottles so sent away. A regular chart is kept, and the tabulated records of course should prove to be of value to geographers.

One bottle traveled 10,600 miles, two in one 7,500 and others over 4,000.

The rate of travel varies from 15 miles to one-tenth of a mile a day, the average being about four miles.

Each finder who returns a bottle the captain sends a copy of Froude's "Oceania." Capt. Simpson is a blue-eyed skipper, and that star and some other letters, as a rule, accompanying the bottle, are the colored man at Cape Palmas asked for something more substantial for his "honored service"—either in money or in anything you think it values."

Another correspondent in Sierra Leone writes: "Sorry to inform you that the copy

A Big Job

Of Painting

British Turret Steamer Inverness Will Have Forty Painters Engaged.

The Launching of New Steamer Jefferson at Tacoma Yesterday.

Forty extra hands will be employed on the big job of painting the sugar steamer Inverness, now in the Esquimalt drydock. The job is described as a nice one, both as to size and with reference to the pleasant smelling anti-fouling, which it is understood, will be put upon the lower hull of the big steamer. The Inverness has come in to get a thorough overhauling and titivation, and has come to the best place on the Pacific coast to obtain satisfaction. The Inverness has been on several very long voyages lately, and is not as clean as she might be about the bilge; but she will be turned out of the drydock in a week or two as smart as the day she was introduced to Father Neptune. Work on her was started yesterday, and is to be pushed with all speed, as there are plenty of other candidates for the drydock.

The Inverness is a British steamer of the turret pattern, something like the Norwegian mail carrier *Thunberg*, which passes up and down here regular in the Nanaimo-Port Los Angeles coal trade. The Inverness is a vessel of 2,400 tons register, and is commanded by Captain Proud. She finished discharging several thousand tons of Java sugar at Vancouver last week.

THE LAMORNA.

Speculators in San Francisco Still Playing the Ship to Arrive.

Heavy speculation was reported yesterday on the British ship Lamorna, sailing from Tacoma thirty-two days ago, and believed by many persons to have been lost off the coast of Vancouver during the great storms early last month, says the San Francisco Call. Almost without exception the speculators are playing the ship to arrive, and the amount risked promises to be a record-breaker in local speculation on overdue ships. In spite of the reports received from the North, as before reported, many shipping men refuse to believe that the ship met with serious disaster on the northern coast, and they are willing to take chances on her arrival at Queenstown. The rate of reinsurance was dropped yesterday from 90 per cent to 85 per cent.

THE JEFFERSON.

A Picturesque Launching Was Expected at Tacoma Yesterday Evening.

The Tacoma correspondent of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer sent the following yesterday about the launching of the steamer Jefferson:

The new steamboat Jefferson, belonging to the Alaska Steamship Company, will be launched from the Phyllup river shipyards at 6:15 p.m., or extreme high tide, Saturday. Much preparation has been made for the event, and it will be one of the most picturesque launchings ever seen in Tacoma.

The Tacoma office of the steamship company has issued about 2,000 invitations, and the Seattle office has issued a similar number. A feature of the launching will be the arrival from Port Townsend and Seattle tomorrow afternoon of the steamer Dolphin, which will carry about 1,000 invited guests.

The Dolphin will bring Miss Frances Hastings of Port Townsend, who is one of the society leaders of that place, and is a daughter of a well-known shipping man, and who will christen the Jefferson.

The members of the Chamber of Commerce will gather at the dock and greet the members of the Port Townsend Chamber of Commerce and the officials of that city, who may come on the Dolphin. The visitors will be escorted about the city and entertained until the time for the launching arrives.

Several of the bands of the city will also be in attendance, and it is probable that, uniting with the band that will accompany the Dolphin and the hundreds of invited guests and spectators, a parade will march from the city across the Eleventh street bridge and over the mud flats to the shipyards to view the launching. The Dolphin is due to arrive here at 4 p.m.

The Jefferson is one of the most beautiful ships ever turned out in Tacoma. She was constructed by E. W. Heath.

The contract for the building of the vessel was let last fall, and the keel was laid October 8. She will be ready for her machinery when she touches the water of the Sound tomorrow evening and June 1 she will be turned over complete.

The main idea in the construction of the vessel has been strength, carrying capacity and comfort for the passengers. She is built to accommodate about 250 passengers and will easily carry 1,400 tons of freight. She is 225 feet long, thirty-four feet wide, with a twenty-eight-foot midship depth and seventeen feet depth of hold. Her gross tonnage is 1,400 tons.

The engine will be furnished by the Hoogendoorn Works, will be triple expansion, 1,500 horse power. Scotch marine boilers tested to 180 pounds, will furnish the steam. Eight hundred thousand feet of lumber, 125 tons of bar iron, bolts and spikes and 18,000 Eastern loose timbers have been used in her construction. When entirely completed the steamer will have cost about \$200,000, and possibly a little more.

LAMORNA MAY BE SAFE.

Spoken Nearly Four Hundred Miles South of Cape Flattery.

The San Francisco Call says: A new interesting turn has taken place in the matter of the British ship Lamorna, sailing from Tacoma on March 1st for Queenstown with wheat and barley, and believed by many persons to have been wrecked off the Vancouver Island coast on March 9th or 10th. A telegram received yesterday from Redondo reports that Captain Hansen, the steamer W. H. Smith, says he sighted the Lamorna on March 7th, forty miles west-northwest of St. George's, a few miles north of Crescent City. Four hours later on the same day, says Captain Hansen, he was five miles astern of the ship, which was painted lead color and had six topgallant yards and no royal. Captain Hansen reported the ship to be a total wreck, and they were therefore between cross-fires and in danger of extermination. Col. Hall taking in the position at a glance ordered the "cease fire" to be sounded.

All the regiment with the exception of Nos. 3 and 4 companies and a portion of No. 2 then adjourned to lunch, and the refreshments provided by the quartermaster being thoroughly appreciated.

After lunch another attack was made on Mount Tolmie by Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 companies. On this occasion the defense was well conducted and the attacking force were unable to capture any point of the fortification without being repulsed.

Despite this, however, they displayed remarkable valor storming the position with very little regard for the heavy fire to which they were subjected. When the attacking party reached a point about thirty yards from the summit the "cease fire" was sounded.

Col. Hall is pleased at the manner the opposing force were handled, but expresses the opinion that if actual warfare was being engaged in there would have been a great deal of work for the hospital corps.

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always remember the full name

of every

barber.

E. M. Horner

Cures a Cold in One Day, 50c.

WANTED

A Good Farm of About 100 Acres, in Saanich District, Give Full Particulars and Price.

A. W. JONES, 28 Fort St.

IT'S COUGHING TIME

OUR Spruce and Cherry Pectoral

Will break up a cold. For the babies' use, Babes' Own Cough Syrup.

J. L. WHITE, & CO., DRUGGISTS

Agents for Spratt's Dog and Chicken Remedies.

30 and 32 Govt. St. Near P. O.

to sell out at the low rate expected to be posted.

The Lamorna is commonly supposed to have founded off the Vancouver coast. The sighting of the vessel by Captain Hansen of the W. H. Smith on March 7th, 285 miles to the southward of Vancouver Island would, however, make it appear that she could not have been far from Victoria for some time, as she was reported as having been in the Nanaimo-Port Los Angeles coal trade. The Inverness is a vessel of 2,400 tons register, and is commanded by Captain Proud. She finished discharging several thousand tons of Java sugar at Vancouver last week.

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THE STRANGE ADVENTURE OF JAMES MOORE, DRUGGIST

A BAD BEGINNING WITH A BAD ENDING

By D. W. H.

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Of all the thoughts of God that are borne inward unto souls afar, Among the Psalmist's noblest deeps, Now tell me if there any is For gift or grace surpassing this— "He giveth His beloved sleep."

—Elizabeth Brown.

THE early servants of the Hudson Bay Company resided behind the fort or clustered in a cluster of hewn logs, whitewashed inside and out, and built without the slightest regard to architectural effect or sanitation. The men who came here in pursuit of gold in 1858 erected their places of business along the line of Yates and Wharf streets and disposed of their goods on a strictly cash basis. The thoroughfares, which were wagon tracks in summer, in winter became quagmires in which horses and drays often stuck and men sank to their knees. The realization of what are now our chief business streets forty years ago required a man to be able to "take the sun" as they say at sea, to cross them dry-shod and mud-free. Above Broad street, as late as the winter of 1861-62, the roads were absolutely impassable. There were no street lights, sewers, water or cabs—none of the conveniences that now contribute to make life without the business centre enjoyable. Many of the heaviest merchants occupied rooms above or behind their warehouses and raised families of children blooming with health and vigor. The first gas lights on Wharf street, by J. Calvert and John T. Little, both Americans, Mr. Little's house stood on the west side of Wharf street directly opposite the Royal Hotel, which was the first brick building erected in Victoria, the foundation being laid by James Wilcox in the summer of 1858. The little house was the first building lighted by gas in the city, a small retort having been erected for its supply. From that effort sprang the present Victoria Gas Works. Calvert and Little were the first to introduce Colonial legislation that permitted them to charge \$7.50 per thousand cubic feet and had they had a sufficient number of customers they would have made speedy fortunes, although it must be remembered that coal at that time was \$12.50 a ton and lime and wages were correspondingly high. Bachelor merchants not only slept in their offices but cooked there as well. One occasion I went into a Wharf street store to buy a flask of onyx silver which was sold wholesale at \$2.00 a pound. The merchant said he had a long conversation on prices. However, several attempts to cut the argument short by manifesting a desire to retire to the room in the rear which served in the treble capacity of office, bedroom and kitchen. Each time I detained him by raising some new point and presently my nostrils were assailed with the odor of something burning. The merchant took the scent at the same moment and cutting a sentence short made a wild rush to the kitchen. In a moment he emerged holding a frying pan in his hands.

"There he explained as he gave me a moment's rest, 'while I've wasted my time talking to you my sausages have been burned to a crisp!'" He threw four blackened sausages into the street, following them to their muddy resting place with a word that begins with a big "D," as they say in "Pinafore."

One of the most picturesque characters in the down-town district at that time was James Moore, a druggist, who dispensed drugs and chemicals at A. J. Langley & Co.'s at the corner of Broad and Exchange Alley. The merchant said, "Mr. Moore is an Englishman of rather retiring manners. He was amiable and good natured to a fault and was never known to turn his back upon a glass of good brandy or rum, in which genial habit he was not alone. To his intimates he was known as "Jim" Moore; to mere acquaintances as Moore, to the general public as Dr. Moore. As a druggist he had few equals and as prescriptions were charged at the rate of from \$2.00 to \$5.00 it will be understood that the profits were large and that Moore earned the epithet sausages that was given him. Moore did not live at or near his place of business. Early in 1850 he had married a Mrs. Hewig, the widow of a German grocer, whose husband had left her a tidy little fortune out of which she built a brick dwelling which still stands on Gordon street on the opposite side of the road from the Badminton club-house, then the family residence of Senator Macdonald. After the marriage Mrs. Moore hyphenated her name and had her cards printed "Mrs. Hewig-Moore." Several of Moore's friends ventured to address him as "Mrs. Hewig-Moore" but the merchant, in which he resented that innovation caused him to refrain from repeating the liberty and so they returned to the more familiar if less musical appellation of "Jim" Moore.

"I want to be something more in the world than Mrs. Hewig's husband," Moore was accustomed to say, "I want to be known and appreciated for myself alone. I don't propose to have my personality buried in the Hewig grave and Hewig dug up and put me in the front rank. Hewig is dead. Let him rest. If the widow of the deceased wants to carry the dead man's name on her card, well and good. It pleases her and does me no harm. But, by the gods of war, I

refuse to be saddled with her dead husband's name so don't call me by that any more!" And they didn't.

Moore, as I have said, was a kindly-hearted man, and performed many acts of goodness which, no doubt, stand recorded to his credit in the Better Land. He was a most careful druggist and no mistake was ever traced to him. With all his amiability he could be very firm when occasion required, as the tale I am about to relate will show.

One dark and dismal night the rain fell in great sheets and the wind roared over sea and land. It was in December 1861. The hour was 10:30 and the store was closed on the point of closing for the night when the door swung back with a bang and a female figure was blown in. She was closely muffled up to protect her from the fury of the gale and the lower part of the face was hidden behind a red shawl. In spite of the shawl Moore could see that the woman was nice-looking and that she had coal-black eyes that sparkled with what seemed to be an unnatural fire. Approaching the counter the woman hesitated for a moment and then, allowing her eyes to fall, said in a faltering voice:

"I want two bits' worth of laudanum." Moore regarded her face for a moment with a suspicious air and asked: "What do you want it for?"

"I want it for the toothache."

"It wouldn't require so large a quantity as that. A few drops on cotton wool will do. Here, I'll put a few drops in the tooth."

"No, no," said the woman shrinking away. "I must have two bits worth. All my teeth are aching. Give and let me go."

Moore considered a moment. He felt certain the woman before him meant to commit suicide. If he refused to sell her the poison someone else might. "Well," he said, "you may have the poison if you will promise to be careful in its use."

"Yes, yes," cried the woman eagerly.

Moore filled a small phial with a dark fluid, labeled "Laudanum, Poison" and handed it to the customer. She almost snatched it from his hand. She then took the counter and with a smothered "thank you" left the store as rapidly as she had entered it.

Moore gazed after her with a queer look in his eye while a smile played about the corners of his mouth. Then he lighted a little candle and placing it within a tin lantern stood oil was not used in lanterns banked the fire, closed and locked the safe that was before combinations were invented, fastened the doors and saffled forth into the night. The feeble rays cast by the candle guided his footsteps along the dark alleys and he walked side-by-side with the ghost. He walked along Yates through the shop until he reached Government street. The wind was holding high revel. Signboards creaked and buildings groaned and trembled before heavy blasts of wind that tore through the little town as if anxious to sweep the place clean off the map. Moore's hair blew off, but he did not stop to recover it. His course led past the corner of Bastion and Government streets. The gales frowned down upon him but they were preparing to let off on their own accord and contrast with the slender, right to a monopoly of the noise. The lonely wayfarer continued to pick his path slowly and was passing the palliades of the fort when the feeble rays cast by his lantern disclosed something that gave him a start and caused his kind heart to beat with alarm. In an instant he had recovered himself and bending down saw that the figure of a woman lay extended on the walk. A glance showed that the prostrate woman was the one who had asked for the laudanum a short time before. He pulled her up on his shoulder and shook her gently. The woman moaned and drawing the red shawl over her face turned her back to the light. "Come," said Moore, "Get up. This is no place for a human being on such a night, and a woman, too," he added.

"'Oh! go away and let me die," the woman replied in pitiful accents.

"Let you die! No, indeed," said the druggist. "Why should you die? What have you done to make you wish to die?"

"'Oh! I've taken poison—laudanum," she said. "In a few minutes I shall die."

"But you have not taken poison," persisted Moore.

"I have, indeed. I bought it at Langley's—two bits' worth. I swallowed it and have laid down to sleep. Oh! go away and let me die in peace," she moaned.

"Woman," said Moore, "I am the druggist who filled your order. I did not give you laudanum. I gave you a small phial of weak paragoric with a dash of siccative to act as an emetic. If you want till that kills you will live forever."

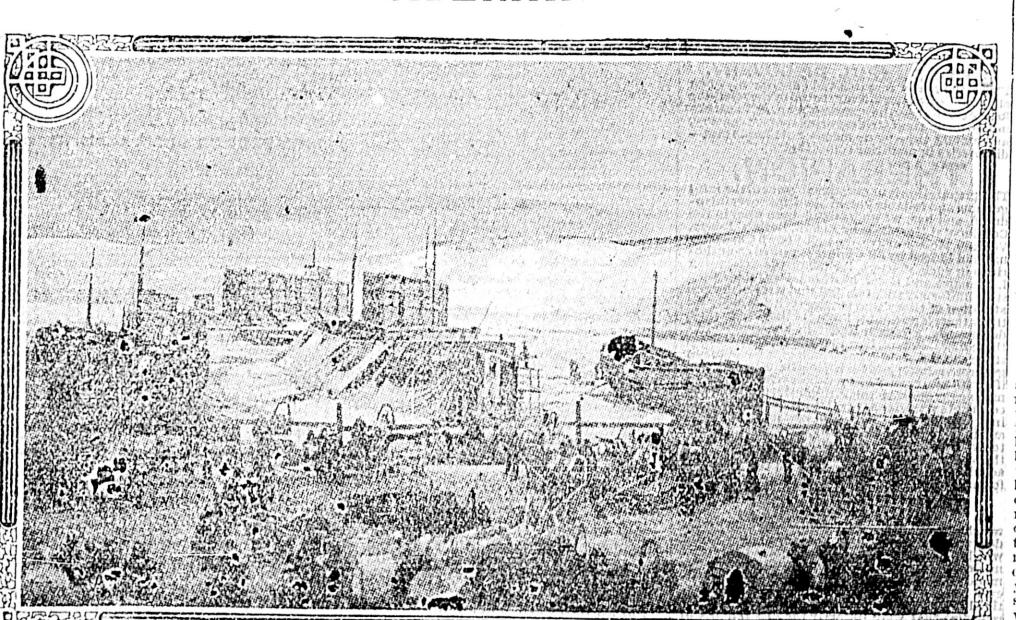
The woman sat up and in imploring tones begged Moore to assure her that he had spoken the truth. No reply was necessary, for at that moment the siccative made its presence manifest in no uncertain way. When the woman had sufficiently recovered Moore assisted her to her feet. Her clothes were wringing wet and she trembled with cold and weakness.

"Have you told me the truth?" she again asked the druggist.

"Yes," replied Moore. "As God is my judge, I gave you nothing that would harm you. Now come with me to my home like a good girl and my wife will look after you."

He half-led, half-carried the forlorn

DIFFICULTIES OF SIBERIAN TRANSPORTATION



FROM RAILWAY CARRIAGE TO ALPINE CROSSING LAKE BAikal

A fortnight flew by during which Mrs. Moore entered upon a round of frivolity and pleasure and had almost forgotten the visitor and her strange story, when one morning a paragraph in the Colonist brought the incident back to her mind with startling vividness.

The paragraph went on to relate that Mrs. Wilmer, residing on North Park street, had died under most painful and extraordinary circumstances. It was stated that she awoke in the middle of the night and found herself in immediate need of a doctor and nurse. She aroused her husband and he, dressing quickly, departed in search of both whose services had been bespoken some weeks before. I cannot recall the doctor's name; but Mrs. Charles Moss, a noted midwife, was the nurse. The doctor was not at home and the unfortunate man visited a saloon, hoping to find him there. In the saloon he encountered a number of lucky Cariboo miners who were celebrating their good fortune. When, after much persuasion, was induced to take "just one drink." He took another and another and soon he was in a state of intoxication. He forgot his sick wife and the errand upon which he had gone forth. Two days passed and on the evening of the third day he staggered his way homeward. He found the door locked, as he had left it. No smoke ascended from the chimney and no sound was heard from within. He knocked. There was no response. He opened the door and entered. In the uncertain light he stumbled over a prostrate form. He stooped and with a cry of anguish and agony despair he saw the body of his wife, clad in her night-gown—dead as ice and still in death. The prostrate man rushed from the house and aroused the neighbors with long cries of horror and remorse. Lights were brought and then was revealed a sight that would melt a heart of stone. The poor woman had fallen from the bed to the floor and she and her babe had died for want of those attentions her husband had been sent to procure. The dead woman's hands were blattered and bruised as if she had been beaten with sticks and still in death. The stretchers were brought and then was revealed a sight that would melt a heart of stone. 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BALTIMORE FIRE STORIES

From New York Sun.

Odd incidents of the big fire are coming to light. Here are some of them: William Musser, a farmer on the Belair road about seven miles beyond the eastern limits of the city, brought to town the other day 100 pounds of Sumatra leaf tobacco and is \$42 richer by reason of the fire. To R. Cuzzoni, the cigarmaker to whom he sold the tobacco, he explained that it had been blown over his farm, together with cinders, on the Sunday evening of the fire. The tobacco came from a big warehouse in the city which was burned. In the main it was but slightly injured.

Like all old cities, the business portion of Baltimore, especially the warehouses near the harbor, was overrun with rats. Police officers and firemen who were on duty in the lower district say that at times on Sunday and Monday the rodents would pour out of buildings in regiments and go galloping toward the river. Since the fire, no rat has been seen in the burned district nor immediately adjacent. It is also estimated that more than a thousand cats lost their lives in the burning warehouses.

It is estimated that about \$70,000 in paper money was destroyed during the rush of flame. Several incidents of finding the charred remains of bank notes have been made known at the Sub-Treasury.

The most peculiar one made Capt.

William Ross of the oyster pungy Mary Rose the richer by \$100. The Mary when the fire began to come down Pratt street, was towed out into the stream and her sails were hoisted.

Seven miles below the city Capt. Ross found on the deck of his craft a blank piece of paper. It almost crumpled at the touch of his hand.

Noticing that it was a \$100 note, he carefully lifted it with a case knife and kept it flat in a book. The genuineness of the note was so apparent at the office of Sub-Treasurer Dryden that it was redeemed.

The office cat of the United Electric Railway Company, which had offices on the tenth floor of the Continental Trust building, has been found wandering about the gutted structure. The building, or at least the woodwork in it, burned like a torch. The flames destroyed every desk, every door, every inflammable article in the whole great structure.

Where Peggy hid to escape is a profound mystery. It is certain that she was locked in the office on Saturday night and that the room was not opened on Sunday. Peggy can give a splendid imitation of how a singed cat looks, and appears to have lost some of her spirits.

More than a thousand steel safes went down in the ruins, and now that they are being opened, many surprises are discovered.

THE SPEAKER THROWS INK.

When Speaker Cannon takes his pen in hand to sign a few bills he always moves away from his immediate vicinity, so as to be beyond reach of the ink shower he is sure to distribute. Some years ago he was robbed of diamonds valued at several thousand dollars. His safe has just been opened, and the \$40,000 worth of diamonds and jewels it contained are found to be ruined.

The gold had all melted and run together. The stones are, he says, of little if any value now. In the same safe a white silk handkerchief was found whole and unsoiled.

Felix R. Sullivan, of 25 South Water street, was overjoyed to see his big strong box come out of the ruins apparently unharmed save for the paint. The combination lock yielded to his manipulation as easily as ever. When he swung the door back, however, he found every scrap of paper within it reduced to ashes. Even the bit of Brussels carpet on the floor of the safe was but charred wool.

A big safe belonging to the largest firm of pawnbrokers in Baltimore appeared intact when brought of the ruins.

It contained \$24 gold and silver watches,

200 diamond and other rings and a lot of miscellaneous gold and silver ornaments.

Except for less than a score of pieces, the watches, rings and ornaments all melted and ran together in one big lump when exposed to the fire. The inside of the heavy doors was not even scorched, and yet every wooden drawer in the safe was in ashes.

Several safes which were opened before they had cooled exploded the moment air reached the interior, and set everything within on fire.

G. E. Learey of Rock Hall, Md., twenty-five miles from Baltimore, has sent here a bill of lading picked up on his farm and mailed out by the Old Bay Line the day before the fire. Its edges were slightly burned. This indicates the velocity of the wind during the fire.

L. G. Mathews, of the insurance firm of H. L. Spear & Co., remembered during the fire that in the firm's safe along with valuable papers were several boxes of parlor matches. He made a desperate effort to reach the strong box, but failed. When the safe was opened not a match had been ignited by the tremendous heat and everything was intact.

Thomas Jenkins who lives in Tawson, seven miles from the city, found in his front yard on the Tuesday after the fire a charred portion of the Testament, and carefully enclosed therein, and uninjured, a portion of Ingersoll's lecture on Voltaire.

A scorched postal card of the Third National Bank was found by N. N. Keune at Bear Creek, Md., about thirty miles from the city in a straight line.

That some men are marked for ill luck is shown by the misfortune of S. T. Rodberg, a Baltimore street jeweler. Some years ago he was robbed of diamonds valued at several thousand dollars. His safe has just been opened, and the \$40,000 worth of diamonds and jewels it contained are found to be ruined.

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THE VALUE OF WHALEBONE.

A cable despatch recently reported from Dundee, Scotland, a sale of two and a quarter tons of whalebone for £3,000 (or over \$14,000) a ton; and it was added that there were only four tons of whalebone left, all being in the market, all the other supplies British and American having been cleaned up.

The price of whalebone has risen in seventy years from 13 cents to \$7 a pound. The rise has been due to a growing demand and a lessening supply. It has reached a point where a bowhead whale may be regarded as an animated gold mine. The bone yield of a bowhead ranges from 1,600 to 3,000 pounds. At ruling prices of \$6 to \$6.50 a pound, this means that a whale is

worth from \$10,000 to \$20,000; and the head fishery should be attractive if there are any bowheads left.—*Marine Journal.*

POSER IN JAPANESE.

The present interest in things Japanese gives timeliness to the publication of a letter sent several years ago by a tradesman at Tokio to a New York house manufacturing sporting goods. On the face this curious bit of Japanese English would seem to have been written by a graduate of one of the government schools, from which he had issued strong in the belief that he was master of the speech of the Anglo-Saxons. The inside, the alien constructions in which show that it could not have been composed by any one speaking a European tongue is as follows:

"N. K. Nakamura, Tokio, 13 Ginza,

"Messrs. D. Abbey & Imrie, New York, Dear Sirs: Yours: We shall present to you our complete set of fishing rods, a net basket and a rug we have just convenience. All these were very rough and simply to you laughing for your kind reply which you sent us the catalogue of fishing tackle last etc.

"Wishing we now at Japan these it was not in prevailing fishing but fishermen. In source therefore, but we do not measure how, the progression of the fishing game beforehand. Therefore we shall yield of feeling to restock in my store your country's fishing tackle etc.

"Should you have the kindness to send a such farther country even in a few weeks, when we send the money in ordering of them, should you?"

"Yours, Ours sincerely,

"N. K. NAKAMURA."

A copy of this letter found its way into the fair hands of a Vassar college senior, who at once organized a society among her classmates for its study and interpretation. After some weeks spent in earnest deliberation they reached the conclusion that the first sentence was an order for certain articles named in the manufacturers' catalogue, while the second apologized for the insignificance of the order and acknowledged the firm's courtesy in forwarding the list. The third and fourth sentences were found to contain a discussion of the difficulties of establishing a trade in high-class sporting goods in Japan, where the fishing was mostly done by professionals. The epistle closes with a little flourish of characteristic Japanese politeness.

But while the learned seniors at Vassar were pondering over its mysteries, the British House had filled the order and got its pay from the courteous Mr. Nakamura.

HE MEANT IT.

I remember some years ago when soldiers were pouring out of England to a foreign war the editor of a London paper gravely proposed to the British War Office to rent the backs of the soldiers' knapsacks for advertising purposes. The commander-in-chief at that time was the late Duke of Cambridge; a fiery old gentleman who raised heaven and earth to try and have the newspaper man punished for the suggestion. There were some correspondence and the farther it went the worse it became for the Duke. The editor took him aside seriously and frankly asked him how much he could get on the space of a knapsack and how next while lettering on the dark background could instruct all who saw it in the virtues of this firm's pills, that man's ointment, somebody else's electric belts, and the best evening paper to read. Because the British War Office rejected the proposition doesn't make it an impossible one. This is a business age, and we might as well make some use of the police.

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A Nantucket Church Bell's Story

Correspondence Springfield Republican.

Beneath the belfry, in which swings the old Spanish Bell, Knowing that this is now a Unitarian church, the visitor will be surprised to see a Catholic cross on the bell. If he could read Portuguese, and he is previously acquainted with the history of the bell, he will be still more surprised to see the following inscription: "Ao Bom Jesus do monte completo seu votos os devotos de Lisboa, oferecendo hum completo jugo de sebo santo para clumar nos avls adorao no seu santuario, Jose Domingos Dacosta ofez de Lisboa no anno de 1810." The translation of this inscription is as follows: "To the Good Jesus of the Mountain, the devotees of Lisbon, offering him a complete jug of sacred butter to consecrate his altar, Jose Domingos Dacosta made it in Lisbon in the year 1810." Of course the bell must have an interesting history to account for this inscription. That history is briefly as follows:

The Nantucketers replied that their bell was in use in Lisbon and certain people in that city prayed to the Virgin Mary for the cessation of the plague and vowed to place a set of six bells in the church of the Good Jesus of the Mountain if their prayers were heard. "The people of Nantucket heard of this and came to the city of Lisbon in which there is a very venerable church called as above. Shortly after this the plague ceased, and accepting this as the answer to their prayers, these devotees of Lisbon proceeded to fulfill their vows. The work of casting these six bells was entrusted to Jose Domingos Dacosta, the best bell founder in Lisbon.

These bells had been cast, with the master's labors had been crowned with success, when Capt. Clushy of the Nantucket senior, who at once organized a society among her classmates for its study and interpretation. After some weeks spent in earnest deliberation they reached the conclusion that the first sentence was an order for certain articles named in the manufacturers' catalogue, while the second apologized for the insignificance of the order and acknowledged the firm's courtesy in forwarding the list. The third and fourth sentences were found to contain a discussion of the difficulties of establishing a trade in high-class sporting goods in Japan, where the fishing was mostly done by professionals. The epistle closes with a little flourish of characteristic Japanese politeness.

But while the learned seniors at Vassar were pondering over its mysteries, the British House had filled the order and got its pay from the courteous Mr. Nakamura.

At first Dacosta demurred and could not see any way to sell the bell, since it belonged to the set of chimes designed for the Church of the Good Jesus of the Mountain, and was appropriately inscribed and all. But Capt. Clushy would have no other. Finally Dacosta decided, since the bell had not yet been consecrated, and since he could cast another to take its place, that it would be all right to sell.

"Sir," said Clushy, "I have a bell which I brought from Nantucket by Capt. Cary, whose history we are describing. Capt. Cary was delighted with the result. 'Ah, Clushy,' he said, 'you need look no further; that's the bell you want; she is a beauty, she sounds on B.'"

"Well, sir," remarked Dacosta, "that we consider that to be the finest bell that we have in our foundry."

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CONCERNING ELECTIONS

By T. H. S. ESCOTT, M.A.

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PLACE: The outside of one of the smartly appointed omnibuses plying between Bayswater and the city.

INTERLOCUTORS: The driver and the occupant of a front seat, Mr. Hazeldane, a country gentleman, farming his own land of enriching mind and of enlightened principles, up in London from Mangelwurzelshire, on a visit to friends in Westbourne Terrace.

DRIVER—Want to know what I think about these 'ere elections we've had lately? Well, I don't think anything about 'em at all, and that's the truth.

Hazeldane (with the satisfactionlessness which the example of his old Oxford tutor had in him in the best way of eliciting information)—But, my friend, you and talk with many people of different kinds. Surely, these by-appeals to constituents are at least as straws, thrown up, that show how the breeze of popular opinion blows. Is not that what most of those you drive, and talk with, would agree with me to be the case?

DRIVER—(still evading the question)—Well, you see, sir, how it is. My fares are mostly business gents, and their politics in the City—"lections?" Rather not. "You all right that a real good cigar, coachman?" That's more the sort of thing which one gets accustomed to hear in my position. Except when they come all at once throughout the country, no 'lections signify the price of half a pint. Here's me and my old woman, we've been married five and thirty years, come Michaelmas next. She gives me a piece of her mind now and then, especially if it's a Saturday night. I have my say now and then, but do we have any say in changing each other's license? I think we'd argue with one another more.

Hazeldane—The monotony of married life, you think, would be intolerable without these occasional tiffs? And the constituents I suppose, from your point of view, like their Cabinet, the better rather than the worse, because they now and then leave the ministerial in the lurch.

DRIVER—That's exactly how it is, sir. The red rod and spud the child as the warden with the birch rod said to the youngster in the dormitory. The fact is, sir, nobody's got any interest in 'lections, since all the picking and perhshing were taken away.

Hazeldane (somewhat sententiously)—Oncing, I suppose, that the stringency of the latest laws against bribery divest a citizen's elementary duty to choose his representative of the main induce-ment to its performance.

DRIVER—(with a thoughtful and puzzled air)—That's not exactly how I should put it, but maybe it's what I mean. I am a countryman, I am from Essex. Down in my old home, everyone used to look to 'lections to pay the rent. No body thought of promising his vote till the bills was paid down gold, silver, and 18-pun notes. They were rare times, they was. The two candidates used to be the running neck and neck, when the news would round that the man in the moon was coming and would like a word or two with the free and independents meaning of course the electors, on the strict O.T. in the loft over the stable of the Blue Boar, 'twen nine and ten that night. Well, you know that sometimes it used to be safe for the Blues. Sometimes the Buffs would get up another man in the Moon of their own. But in most cases the Blues were out and out the best at the business. They would give any money for the mere asking. They had every public in the place, and if any man went to bed the poor, why, it was his own fault.

Hazeldane—But, at least, as matters are, if you don't make such a good thing out of it, the cost of choosing a member has been so reduced, that working men can be represented by one of themselves if they wish.

DRIVER—With a knowing look and a suppressed whistle, half addressing his conductor at the other end of the vehicle—Here, Bill, here's a gent says I send you to parliament next 'lection (the individual thus accosted, ignoring what he regards as a bad joke, the speaker continues). No, sir, come to think of his own trade is it not more to the point that men must leave their own business as well as bus drivers. I've heard speak of drivin' a coach-and-four through an act of parliament, but that don't make the driver a proper parliament man.

Hazeldane—Then, my friend, you are content to leave things as they are, and to pay taxes, without a voice in their spending being raised at Westminster, by any of your own class.

DRIVER—As for that, sir, I always heard that taxes went to pay the cost of government. It's all done above board. We've no cause to complain, and we shouldn't make less a mess if we did. That's my opinion. Then as ought to know gets what they think the right men for the work. It's a right between the ins and the outs, but I could never see there was a pin to choose between them. The Buffs are always going to give us what they call a free breakfast table, if we'll only put them in the place of the Blues. We does so. They claps another two-pences on, and say those before them has got things into such a precious mess that it'll take heaven knows how long before the matters are put straight and they can begin again. But in my opinion, sir, it's the old story of the two niggers who was 'zactly like each other, especially Sambo.

Hazeldane—Do you find that view borne out by facts yourself?

DRIVER—Turn and turn about's fair play. Them's my sentiments, sir. Give both a try, and see which does best. Can you tell me why, sir, there are any parliament men at all?

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Hazeldane—It seems, my friend, you are somewhat of a fatalist in politics. Driver—P'raps I be, and p'raps I bain't. All I know is, we workmen don't think about 'lections. Just they took away the hustings. There are no more bands playing, dead cats or rotten eggs flying. No more shouting or polling at the booths. Only a sneaking of something into a covered box, with a hole in the side. A regular hole and corner affair, as quiet and dull as, in a figure of speech, as one might say, a chapel service on Sunday afternoon. That's not the English way. And then, sir, we finds them as stands for parliament, whichever color they be,

make the dentified promises at the time, and think nothing about 'em afterwards. 'lections used to mean a man's money. That's all gone. Who should me and my mates bother ourselves any more about them? They've got rid of all that make 'em worth anything. My opinion is 'lections of any kind, and p'raps parliament, too, will soon be as dead and gone as 'esses and vehicles of every kind.—Nothing but motor-steam engines in the streets, and the 'Ouses of Parliament put up to let once more. They were when Oliver Cromwell hauled them all out, neck and crop into the street. But here we are at the Bank, sir.

Hazeldane (having dismounted and now walking towards Lombard street, soliloquizing to himself)—Truly has it been said that the English public cannot hold two things in its mind at the same time. Our friend yonder, like thousands more, is at heart too full of the novelties attendant on a reign that is only just beginning, even to recognize the issues periodically submitted to the electorate. And yet this is called a self-governed country. Our constitutional monarchs are called domineering. Rather have we passed into a dispensation of bureaucrats, with a political indifference or apathy among the masses, which, if there be such a thing as political philosophy, not merely invites, but compels the despotism of a dictator. Well may the government, as the papers charge it with doing, miss the moral, and be deaf to the warning of the elections they have lost. In the popular temper, reflected by our omnibus friend, all demonstration against his uncrowned a much less clever man than King Charlemagne might snap his fingers at sovereignty.

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